Memorandum

Agenda Item No. 5(C)



Date:

July 17, 2012

To:

Honorable Chairman Joe A. Martinez

and Members, Board of County Commissioners

From:

Carlos A. Gimenez

Mayor

Subject:

Resolution Relating to an Application by Miami-Dade County for a Class I Permit to Install a New Retaining Wall in Wetlands at the Vizcaya Museum and Gardens, in Miami, Miami-

Dade County, Florida

Attached, please find for your consideration an application by Miami-Dade County for a Class I permit. Also attached is the recommendation of the Department of Regulatory and Economic Resources and a proposed resolution approving the issuance of the Class 1 --- permit.

Jack Osterholt, Deputy Mayor

Memorandum



Date:

June 20, 2012

To:

Carlos A. Gimenez

Mayor

From:

Jack Osterholt, Deputy Mayor,

Department of Regulatory and Economic Resources

Subject: Resolution Relating to an Application by Miami-Dade County for a Class I Permit to Install

a New Retaining Wall in Wetlands at the Vizcaya Museum and Gardens, in Miami, Miami-

Dade County, Florida

Recommendation

I have reviewed the attached Class I permit application submitted by Miami-Dade County. Based upon the applicable evaluation factors set forth in Section 24-48.3 of the Code of Miami-Dade County (Code), Florida, I recommend that the Board of County Commissioners (Board) approve the issuance of a Class T permit for the reasons set forth below.

Scope

Vizcaya Museum and Gardens is located in Commissioner Suarez's District 7 at 3251 South Miami Avenue, Miami, Miami-Dade County.

Fiscal Impact/Funding Source

Not applicable.

Track Record/Monitor

The Coastal Resources Section Manager within the Department of Regulatory and Economic Resources will be responsible for monitoring the terms of the proposed permit.

Background

The attached Class I permit application requests authorization to install a new retaining wall in wetlands supporting halophytic (salt tolerant) vegetation at the Vizcaya Museum and Gardens (Vizcaya). The proposed project is required to be reviewed and approved by the Board at a public hearing because the scope of work is not specifically referenced in Section 24-48.2 of the Code as work that can be processed administratively with a short form application. Therefore, a standard form application including a public hearing is required.

Vizcaya is a National Historic Landmark that was originally built by James Deering in the 1910s as a private residence and was conveyed to Miami-Dade County in the 1950s to be preserved in perpetuity as a public museum featuring a main house, about a dozen outbuildings, and extensive grounds including ten acres of formal gardens and a native forest. A recently restored historic garden at the north corner of the Vizcaya property parallels a halophytic wetland area that is immediately adjacent to Biscayne Bay. The historic garden area is subject to periodic flooding due to tidal extremes and storm events. An existing concrete retaining wall rises less than half a foot above the adjacent grade of the garden and is therefore not an effective barrier to the tidal/storm effects. Site diagrams are included in Attachment B.

Miami-Dade County is proposing to install a 184 foot long concrete retaining wall to protect the historic garden. The top of the proposed wall will be four (4) feet above the grade of the surrounding area with an elevation of seven (7) feet National Geodetic Vertical Datum, exceeding the Federal Emergency Management Agency 10-year flood elevation of six (6) feet National Geodetic Vertical Datum. The installation of the proposed wall will result in the temporary excavation of 934 square feet of wetland soils.

Carlos A. Gimenez, Mayor Page 2

A halophytic wetland area is located east of the existing concrete retaining wall. Although several mature red mangrove trees and black mangrove trees are present, the area is predominantly vegetated by invasive exotic plant species.

Pursuant to Section 24-48.4 of the Code, potential adverse environmental impacts and cumulative adverse environmental impacts for the proposed project must be avoided and minimized. A biological survey conducted by the Department of Regulatory and Economic Resources staff revealed no significant halophytic wetland vegetation within the footprint of the proposed retaining wall. Staff documented a single red mangrove seedling within the footprint of the proposed work, which will be relocated prior to the commencement of construction operations. Once the installation of the wall is complete, the excavated material will be used as backfill and the project area will be restored to preconstruction elevation. Although no mitigation is required for the minimal temporary environmental impacts expected under this project, the applicant is proposing to restore the area through the removal of invasive exotic plant species and promote the recruitment of native vegetation and enhance the existing halophytic wetland habitat.

The-proposed project complies with Section 24-48.3(2) of the Code as related to the criteria for a physical modification necessary to protect public or private property. The project has been designed in accordance with all relevant Miami-Dade County coastal and wetland construction criteria and is consistent with all other Miami-Dade County coastal and wetland protection provisions. Please find attached a Department of Regulatory and Economic Resources Project Report which sets forth the reasons the proposed project is recommended for approval by the Department of Regulatory and Economic Resources pursuant to the applicable evaluation factors set forth in Section 24-48.3 of the Code. The conditions, limitations, and restrictions set forth in the Project Report attached hereto are incorporated herein by references hereto.

Attachments

Attachment A: Class I Permit Application

Attachment B: Owner/Agent Letter, Engineer Certification Letter and Project Sketches

Attachment C: Zoning Memorandum

Attachment D: Names and Addresses of Owners of All Riparian or Wetland Property within Three

Hundred (300) Feet of the Proposed Work

Attachment E: Department of Regulatory and Economic Resources Project Report



TO:	Honorable Chairman Joe A. Martinez and Members, Board of County Commissioners	DATE:	July 17, 2012			
FROM:	R. A. Cuevas, Jr. County Attorney	SUBJECT:	Agenda Item No. 5(C)			
P	lease note any items checked.					
	"3-Day Rule" for committees applicable i	f raised				
	6 weeks required between first reading and public hearing					
	4 weeks notification to municipal officials required prior to public hearing					
	Decreases revenues or increases expenditures without balancing budget					
\$-10-0-1-107-974+ ·	Budget required					
	Statement of fiscal impact required					
	Ordinance creating a new board requires detailed County Manager's report for public hearing					
$\frac{V}{V}$	No committee review					
11774/	Applicable legislation requires more than 3/5's, unanimous) to approve	a majority vo	te (i.e., 2/3's,			
	Current information regarding funding so					

Approved	Mayor	Agenda Item No. 5(C)
Veto		7-17-12
Override		
	RESOLUTION NO.	

RESOLUTION RELATING TO AN APPLICATION BY MIAMI-DADE COUNTY FOR A CLASS I PERMIT TO INSTALL A NEW RETAINING WALL IN WETLANDS AT THE VIZCAYA MUSEUM AND GARDENS, IN MIAMI, MIAMI-DADE COUNTY, FLORIDA

WHEREAS, this Board desires to accomplish the purposes outlined in the accompanying memorandum, a copy of which is incorporated herein by reference,

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS OF MIAMI-DADE COUNTY, FLORIDA, that this Board having considered all the applicable factors contained within Section 24-48.3 of the Code of Miami-Dade County, hereby approves the application by Miami-Dade County for a Class I permit to install a new retaining wall in wetlands at the Vizcaya Museum and Gardens, in Miami, Miami-Dade County, Florida, subject to the conditions set forth in the memorandum from the Miami-Dade County Department of Regulatory and Economic Resources, a copy of which is attached hereto and made a part hereof. The issuance of this approval does not relieve the applicant from obtaining all applicable Federal, State, and local permits.

Agenda Item No. 5(C) Page No. 2

The foregoing resolution was offered by Commissioner who moved its adoption. The motion was seconded by Commissioner and upon being put to a vote, the vote was as follows:

Joe A. Martinez, Chairman Audrey M. Edmonson, Vice Chairwoman

Bruno A. Barreiro

Lynda Bell

Esteban L. Bovo, Jr.

Jose "Pepe" Diaz

Sally A. Heyman

Barbara J. Jordan

Jean Monestime

Dennis C. Moss

Rebeca Sosa

Cara Janian D. Cara

Xavier L. Suarez

Sen. Javier D. Souto

The Chairperson thereupon declared the resolution duly passed and adopted this 17th day of July, 2012. This resolution shall become effective ten (10) days after the date of its adoption unless vetoed by the Mayor, and if vetoed, shall become effective only upon an override by this Board.

MIAMI-DADE COUNTY, FLORIDA BY ITS BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS

HARVEY RUVIN, CLERK

Approved by County Attorney as to form and legal sufficiency.

ABIL

Abbie Schwaderer-Raurell

Attachment A Class I Permit Application



Class I Permit Application

FOR DEPARTMENTAL USE ONLY					
Date Received:		Application Number:	2011-CLI-PER-00104		
	·	Application Fee: \$3,220.00			
Application must be filled out in its cr	tirety. Please indicate N/A	for non-applicable fields.			
1. Applicant Information: Name:Miami - Dade County Address:111 NW 1st Street		2. Applicant's Authorized Permit Agent: Agent is allowed to process the application, furnish supplemental information rotating to the application and bind the applicant to all requirements of the application. Name: Ocean Consulting, LLC Address: 340 Minorca Avenue Snite 5 Coral Gables, FL Zip Code: 33607 Phone #: (305) 921-9344 Fax #: (305) 677-3254 Email: kirk@oceanconsultingfl.com			
3. Location where proposed activity ex	cists or will occur (latitude a	nd longitude are only necessary	for properties without address or folio #):		
Folio #(s): _01-4114-005-0010 Street Address: _3251 South Miami Ave In City or Town:Miami, FL. Name of waterway at location of the acti	vity: _Biscayne Bay	car City or Town:	· • • • • • • • • • • • • • • • • • • •		
4. Describe the proposed activity (chec	k all that apply):		pp. co.		
□Seawall □ I □ New/Replacement Seawall □ I	Oock(s) ☐ Boatl	ing Piles I Mainter or Piles X New			
X Other:			<i>2</i> -0-01		
Estimated project cost = \$_120,000.00					
Are you seeking an after-the-fact approva		If "Yes", describe the ATF v	work:		
5. Proposed Use (check all that apply): Single Family Multi-Family Private X Public Commercial Industrial	ply): 6. If the proposed work relates to the mooring of vessels provide the following information (please also indicate if the applicant does not have a vessel): Proposed Vessel Type (s): N/A Vessel Make/Model (If known): Draft (s)(range in inches.): Length (s)(range in feet.):				
□ Utility	Total Number of Slips:				
7. List all permits or certifications that	have been applied for or o	btained for the above refere	nced work:		
Issuing Agency Type of App DEP Exemption USACE General	= =	Number Application 4/28/11			

1	· · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · ·	Tollandar .			
8. Contractor Information (If known);					
Name: To Be Determined	License # (County/State):				
Address:	· · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · ·		<u> </u>	Zip Code:	~
Phone #: Fax #:	E-r	nail:		.a	
- 1/2					
9. IMPORTANT NOTICE TO APPL be considered complete. Your application the application is completed below. You in this application.	on WILL NOT BE PR	OCESSED unless to apprise the Depar	the Applicant a tment of any cl	and Owner C nanges to info	onsent portion of rmation provided
Application is hereby made for a Miami-Dad following:	e County Class I permit	to authorize the activi	ities described he	rein. I agree to	or affirm the
 I possess the authority to authorize the I am familiar with the information, do To the best of my knowledge and be I will provide any additional information comply with the applicable State and I am authorizing the permit agent his relating to this application and bind the purpose of making the preliminant. 	ata and plans contained i lief, the information, data ation, evidence or data n I County water quality st sted in Section 2 of this a he applicant to all requir entry to the project site.	in this application, and and plans submitted accessary to provide and ards both during application to process coments of this application inspectors and authorized and aut	d lare true, complete assurationstruction and state application, ation, and noticed represent	nce that the pr after the project furnish supple atives of Mian	oposed project will t is completed, and mental information
A. IF APPLICANT IS AN INDIVIDU	JAL · · · ·	-,			
Signature of Applicant	Print Ap	plicant's Name		<u> </u>	Pate
B. IF APPLICANT IS OTHER THA (Examples: Corporation, Partnership Miami – Dade County Print Name of Applicant (Enter the complete name Registration/Incorporation	o, Trust, LLC, LLP, etc.	OR NATURAL P C.) Local Government Type (Corp. LLC	1	Florida State of	
Under the penalty of perjury, I certify that Applicant, and if so required to authorize the authority to the Department). ***Please Noperating agreements, or other applicable a	he issuance of a bond or lote: If additional sign	n behalf of the Appli atures are required.	icant. (If asked, pursuant to you onal signature pa	you must prov	ide proof of such
Signature of Authorized Representative	Print Authorized Rep	oresentative's Name	Senior Advisor Title		Date
C. IF APPLICANT IS A JOINT VEN	TURE Each party m	ast sign below(If m	ore than two m	embers, list o	n attached page)
Print Name of Applicant (Enter the complete name Registration/Incorporation	as registered)	Type (Corp, LLC,	LLP, etc.)	State of	
Print Name of Applicant (Enter the complete name Registration/Incorporation	as registered)	Type (Corp, LLC,	LLP, etc.)	State of	
Under the penalty of perjury, I certify that I Applicant, and if so required to authorize the authority to the Department). ***Please N operating agreements, or other applicable as	e issuance of a bond on ote: If additional signs	t behalf of the Appli Atures are required.	cant. (If asked, y nursuant to you	ou must prov	ide mont of such
Signature of Authorized Representative	Print Authorized Rep	resentative's Name	Title		Date
Signature of Authorized Representative	Print Authorized Rep.	resentative s Name	Title		Date

10. WRITTEN CONSENT OF TO	HE PROPERTY OWN	ER OF THE AREA OF THE P	ROPOSED WORK
I/We are the fee simple owner(s) of the County, Florida, otherwise identified in	the public records of Mia	mi-Dade County as Polio No01-	
I am aware and familiar with the conter to the subject property, as described in applicable) and hereby consent to the w	Section 4 of this applica	tion. I possess the riparian rights to	
A. IF THE OWNER(S) IS AN I	DIVIDÚAL		
Signature of Owner	Print Owner's Name		Date
Signature of Owner	Print Owner's	Name	Date
B. IF THE OWNER IS OTHER (Examples: Corporation, Partnershi Miami Dade County Print Name of Owner (Enter the complete n	p, Joint Venture, Trust, LI	AL OR NATURAL PERSON C, LLP, etc.) Local Government Type (Corp, LLC, LLP, etc.)	_Florida State of Registration/Incorporation
Address of Owner Under the penalty of perjury, I certify Owner, and if so required to authorize authority to the Department). ***Pleoperating applications of Authorized Representative	e the issuance of a bond o asc Note: If additional s	n behalf of the Owner. (If asked, yo ignatures are required, pursuant to you must attach additional signatu Senior Advisor	ou must provide proof of such
Signature of Authorized Representative	Print Authorized Represen	tative's Name Title	Date

Please Review Above

Appropriate signature(s) must be included in:

Box 9: either A, B or C

<u>AND</u>

Box 10: either A or B

Attachment B

Owner/Agent Letter Engineer Certification Letter Project Sketches

PERMIT APPLICANT/ AUTHORIZED AGENT STATEMENT

Date: June 8, 2012

To:
Miami Dade County Department of Regulatory and Economic Resources
Class I Permitting Program
701 NW 1st Court
Miami FL, 33136

Re: Class I Permit Application Number 2011-CLI-PER-00104

By the attached Class I Standard Form permit application with supporting documents, I, Lisa Martinez, Senior Advisor, Miami Dade-County, am the permit applicant and hereby request permission to perform the work associated with Class I permit application 2011-CLI-PER-00104. I understand that a Miami-Dade County Class I Standard Form Permit is required to perform this work.

If approval is granted for the proposed work by the Board of County Commissioners, complete and detailed plans and calculations of the proposed work shall be prepared by an engineer registered/licensed in the State of Florida in accordance with the minimum requirements of Chapter 24 of the Code of Miami-Dade County, Florida. Said plans and calculations shall be subject to the review and approval of the Department of Environmental Resources Management. The permit applicant will secure the services of an engineer registered/licensed in the State of Florida to conduct inspections throughout the construction period, and said engineer shall prepare all required drawings of record. In the event that the proposed work which is the subject of this Class I Permit application involves the cutting or trimming of a mangrove tree(s), a detailed plan of the proposed cutting or trimming shall be prepared by a licensed landscape architect and submitted to the Department for review and approval, and the permit applicant will secure the services of a licensed landscape architect to supervise the trimming or cutting.

Respectfully submitted.

Kasa Martinez, Senior Advisor

Miami-Dade County
Permit Applicant



June 8, 2012

Miami-Dade County Department of Regulatory and Économie Resources Class J Permitting Program 701 NW 1st Court Miami, FL 33136

Re: Class I Permit Application Number 2011-CLI-PER-00104

Ladies and Gentlemen-

This letter will certify that I am an engineer registered/licensed in the State of Horida, qualified by education and experience in the area of construction, and that to the best of my knowledge and belief, the proposed work does not violate any laws of the State of Florida or any provision of the Code of Miami Dade County which may be applicable, that diffeence and recognized standard practices of the engineering profession have been exercised in the engineer's design process for the proposed work, and in my opinion based upon my knowledge and belief, the following will not occur:

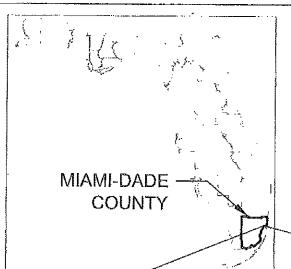
- a. Thurnful obstruction or undesirable alteration of the natural flow of the water within the area of the proposed work
- Harmful or increased erosion, shoaling of channels or stagnant areas of water (Not applicable to Class IV Permits)
- Material injury to adjacent property.
- d. Adverse environmental impacts from changes in water quality or quantity. (Applicable to Class IV Permits only)

Further, I have been retained by the applicant to provide inspections throughout the construction period and to prepare a set of reproducible record prints of drawings showing changes made during the construction process based upon the marked-up prints, drawings, and other data furnished by the contractor to me.

Sincerely.

Jason R. Cummins, P.E.

, P.E. #71538



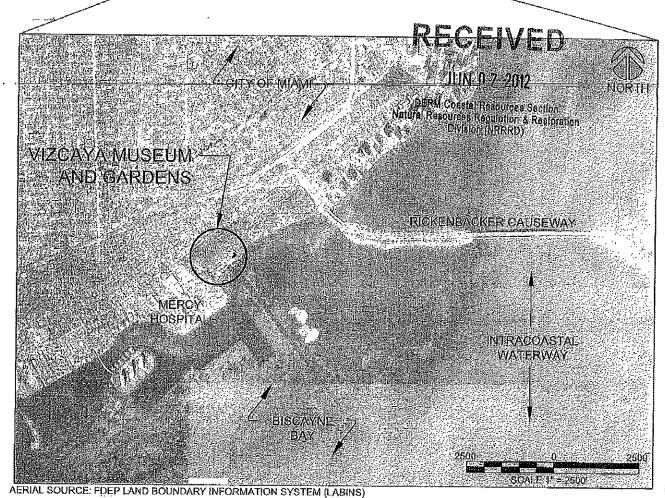
LATITUDE: 25D 44' 40.5" N LONGITUDE: 80D 12' 35.5" W

LEGAL DESCRIPTION:

14 54 41 50.714 AC M/L VIZCAYA PB 34-46 TRS 1-2-3 & PORT OF TR 4 DESC BEG AT THE MOST NLY COR OF TR 4 TH SW1524.68FT SELY TO NLY BDRY OF

PHYSICAL ADDRESS:

3251 SOUTH MIAMI AVE, MIAMI, FLORIDA 33129



CUMMINS | CEDERBERG Coastal & Marine Engineering

22476 SW 94TH PLACE MIAMI, FLORIDA 33190 T: 305-776-5028 FF 305-974-1969 WWW.CUMMINSCEDERBERG.COM NOT FOR CONSTRUCTION FOR REGULATORY REVIEW ONLY

JASON R. CUMMINS P.E. 71538

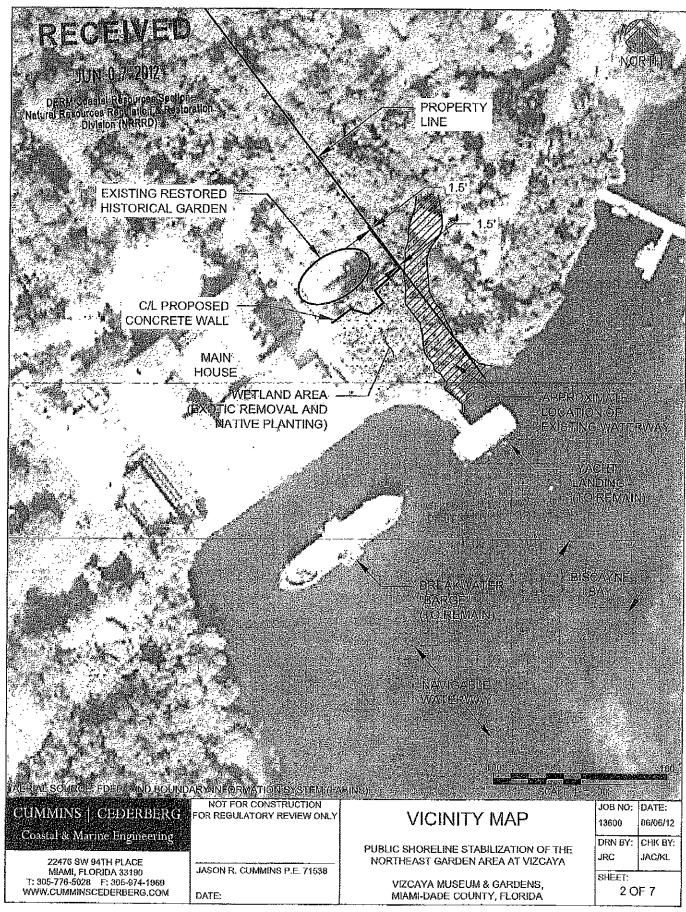
DATE:

LOCATION MAP

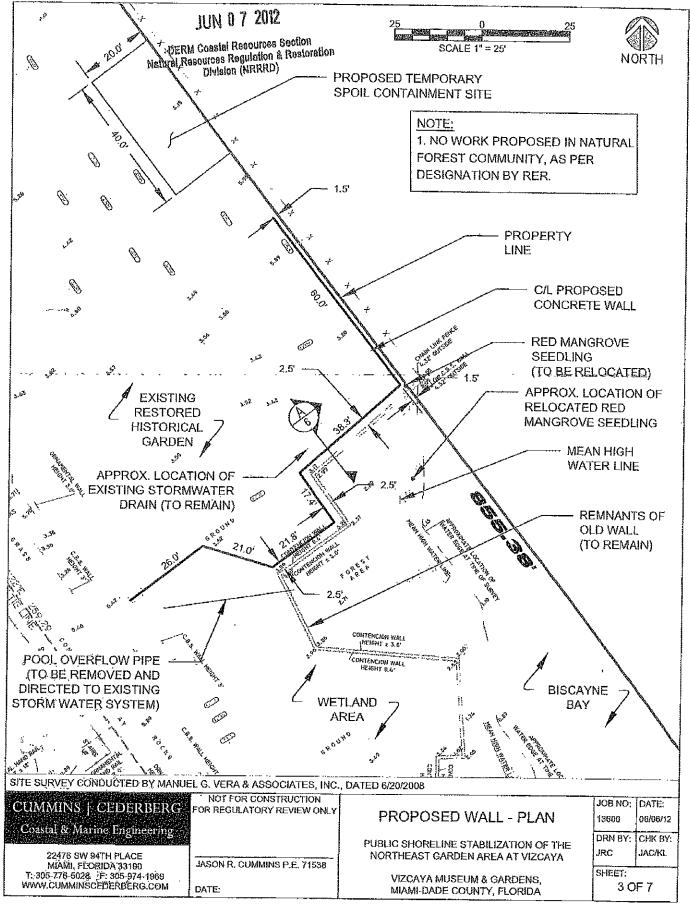
PUBLIC SHORELINE STABILIZATION OF THE NORTHEAST GARDEN AREA AT VIZCAYA

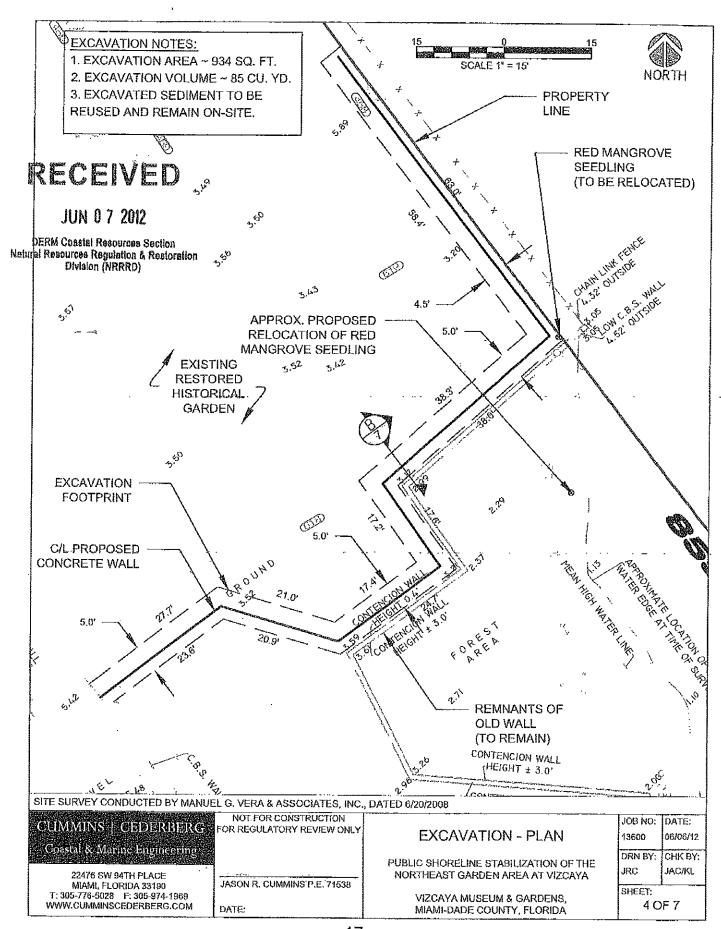
VIZCAYA MUSEUM & GARDENS, MIAMI-DADE COUNTY, FLORIDA

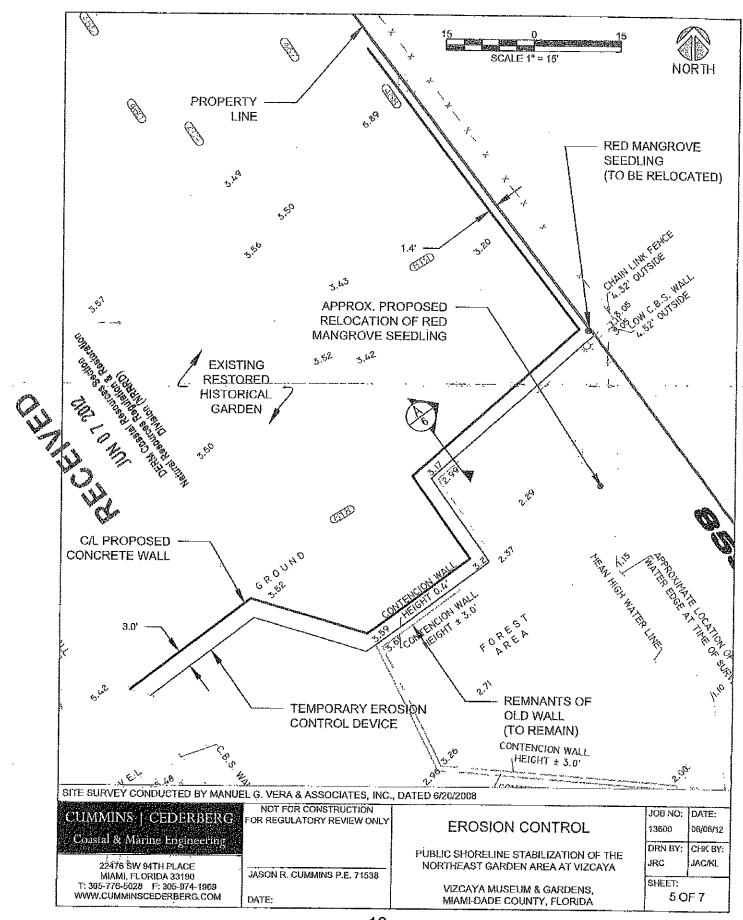
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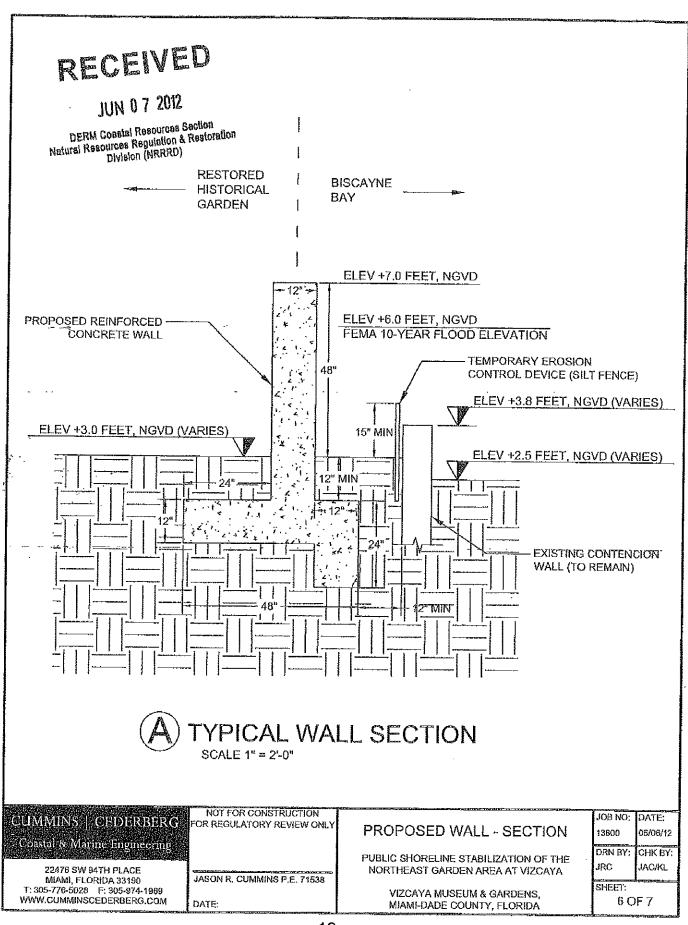


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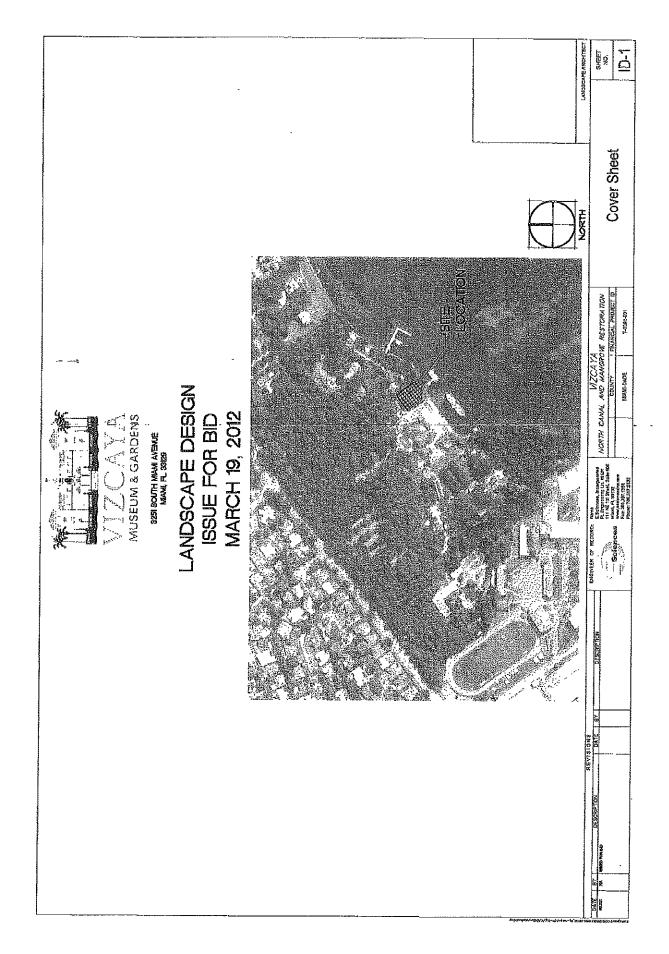


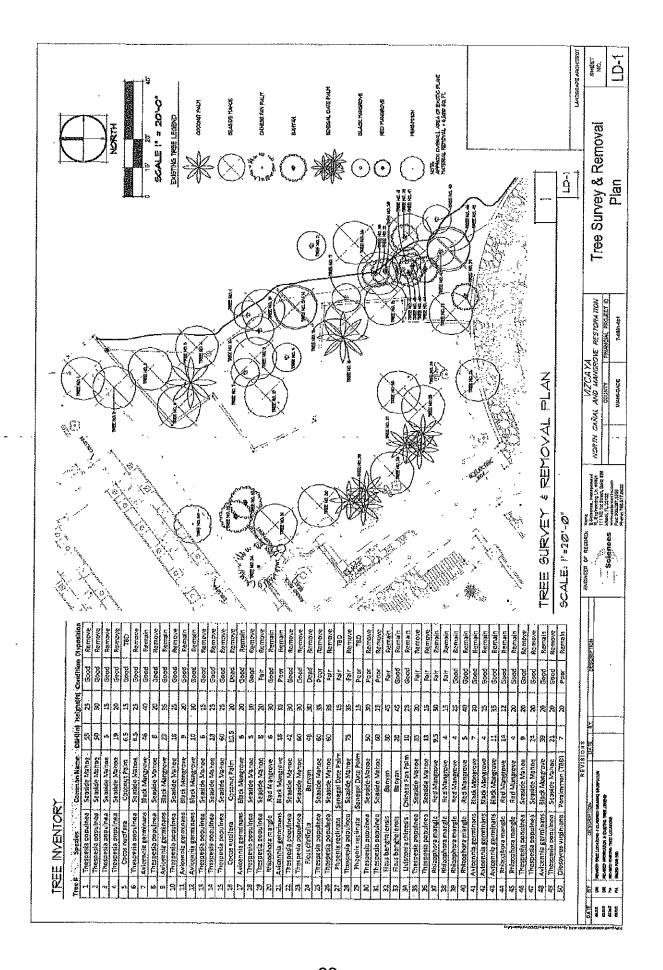


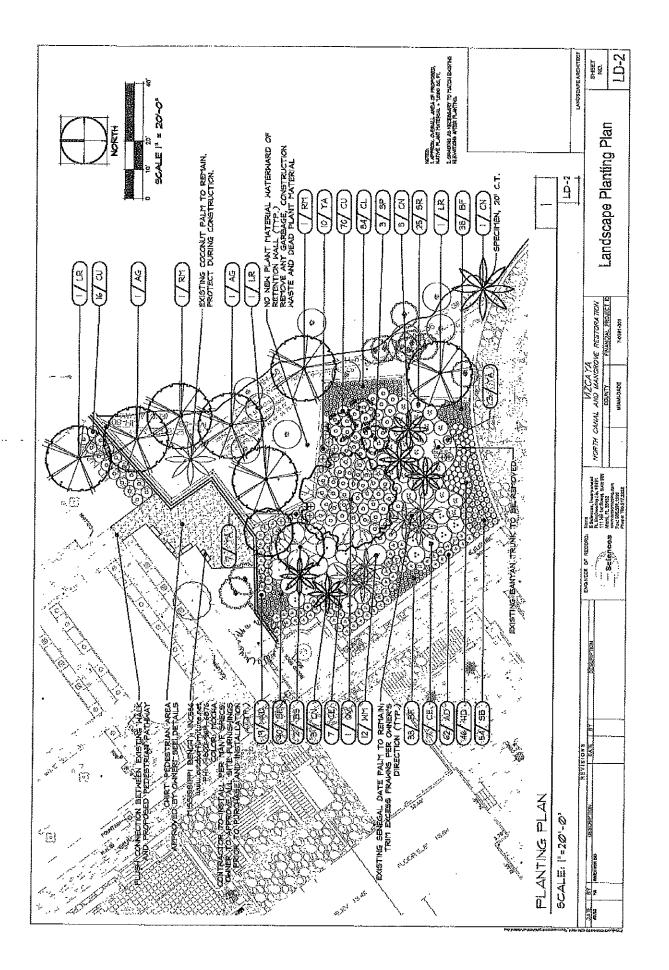
RECEIVED JUN 0 7 2012 DERM Coestal Resources Section Natural Resources Regulation & Restoration Division (NRRRD) RESTORED **BISCAYNE** HISTORICAL BAY **GARDEN** ELEV +7.0 FEET, NGVD ELEV +6.0 FEET, NGVD PROPOSED REINFORCED FEMA 10-YEAR FLOOD ELEVATION **CONCRETE WALL TEMPORARY EROSION** CONTROL DEVICE (SILT FENCE) PROPOSED EXCAVATION ELEV +3.8 FEET, NGVD (VARIES) ELEV +3.0 FEET, 15" MIN NGVD (VARIES) ELEV +2.5 FEET, NGVD (VARIES) EXISTING CONTENCION WALL (TO REMAIN) TEMPORARY SHORING TO STABILIZE **EXCAVATION (AS NEEDED)** 6" MIN

B TYPICAL EXCAVATION SECTION

NOT FOR CONSTRUCTION CUMMINS | CEDERBERG JOB NO: DATE PROPOSED EXCAVATION -FOR REGULATORY REVIEW ONLY 13600 06/06/12 Coastal & Marine Engineering SECTION DRN BY: CHK BY: PUBLIC SHORELINE STABILIZATION OF THE JRC JAC/KL NORTHEAST GARDEN AREA AT VIZCAYA 22476 SW 94TH PLACE JASON R. CUMMINS P.E. 71538 MIAMI, FLORIDA 33190 SHEET: T: 305-776-5028 F: 305-974-1969 WWW.CUMMINSCEDERBERG.COM VIZCAYA MUSEUM & GARDENS, 7 OF 7 DATE: MIAMI-DADE COUNTY, FLORIDA







Attachment C

Zoning Memorandum

Memorandum Emiliade)

Date:

June 14, 2012

To:

Lisa Spadafina, Manager

Coastal Resources Section

Environmental Resources Management

From:

Lourdes Barrelli, Biologist II 36

Coastal Resources Section

Environmental Resources Management

Subject:

Class I Permit Application by Miami-Dade County to Install a New Retaining Wall in

Wetlands at the Vizcaya Museum and Gardens at 3251 South Miami Avenue, Miami,

Miami-Dade County, Florida

Pursuant to Section 24-48.2(II)(A)(7), of the Code of Miami-Dade County, Florida, a substantiating letter shall be submitted by the applicant stating that the proposed project does not violate any zoning laws. Said letter will be submitted after approval by the County Commission and prior to issuance of the Class I permit.

Attachment D

Names and Addresses of Owners of All Riparian or Wetland Property within Three Hundred (300) Feet of the Proposed Work 0141140130010 CITY NATL BANK OF FL TRUSTEE LEONARD L (JR) & JAYNE ABESS (BEN 100 SE 32ND RD MIAML FL 33129-2807

CITY NATL BANK OF FL TRUSTEE LEONARD L (JR) & JAYNE ABESS (BEN 100 SE 32ND RD MIAMI, FL 33129-2807

Attachment E

Department of Regulatory and Economic Resources
Project Report

PROJECT REPORT CLASS I PERMIT APPLICATION NO. 2011-CLI-PER-00104

APPLICATION BY MIAMI-DADE COUNTY FOR A CLASS I PERMIT TO INSTALL A NEW RETAINING WALL IN WETLANDS AT THE VIZCAYA MUSEUM AND GARDENS IN MIAMI, MIAMI-DADE COUNTY, FLORIDA

DATE: June 7, 2012

Staff's recommendation of approval for the above-referenced permit application is based on the applicable evaluation factors under Section 24-48.3 of the Code of Miami-Dade County, Florida. The following is a summary of the proposed project with respect to each applicable evaluation factor:

- 1. Potential Adverse Environmental Impact The proposed project is not reasonably expected to result in adverse environmental impacts. A biological survey conducted by the Department of Regulatory and Economic Resources (RER) staff revealed no significant halophytic (salt tolerant) wetland vegetation within the footprint of the proposed retaining wall. Staff documented a single Rhizophora mangle (red mangrove) seedling, which will be relocated prior to the commencement of construction operations. Once the installation of the wall is complete, the project area will be restored to preconstruction elevations. In addition, the removal of invasive exotic vegetation will promote the natural recruitment of native vegetation and enhance the existing halophytic wetland area.
- Potential Cumulative Adverse Environmental Impact The proposed project is not reasonably
 expected to result in cumulative adverse environmental impacts.
- 3. <u>Hydrology</u> The proposed project is not reasonably expected to adversely affect surface water drainage or retention of stormwater.
- Water Quality The proposed project is not reasonably expected to adversely affect surface or groundwater quality.
- 5. Wellfields Not applicable.
- 6. Water Supply Not applicable.
- 7. Aquifer Recharge Not applicable.
- 8. <u>Aesthetics</u> The proposed project is not reasonably expected to have long term negative aesthetic impacts. However, during the construction process there may be temporary aesthetic impacts related to the presence of machinery and equipment associated with the construction activities.
- 9. Navigation The proposed project is not reasonably expected to adversely affect navigation.
- 10. Public Health The proposed project is not reasonably expected to adversely affect public health.
- 11. <u>Historic Values</u> The proposed project is not reasonably expected to adversely affect historic values. The new retaining wall will protect the historic garden and the associated upland vegetation from the tidal influence of Biscayne Bay.
- 12. <u>Archaeological Values</u> The proposed project is not reasonably expected to adversely affect archaeological values.
- 13. Air Quality The proposed project is not reasonably expected to adversely affect air quality.
- 14. Marine and Wildlife Habitats The proposed project is not reasonably expected to adversely affect marine and wildlife habitats. A biological survey conducted by RER staff revealed no significant halophytic wetland vegetation within the footprint of the proposed retaining wall. Once the installation of the wall is complete, the excavated wetland soils will be used as backfill and the project area will be restored to preconstruction elevations. In addition, the removal of invasive exotic vegetation will promote the natural recruitment of native vegetation and enhance the existing halophytic wetland habitat.
- 15. Wetland Soils Suitable for Habitat The proposed project will result in minimal impacts to wetland soils. The installation of the retaining wall will result in the temporary excavation of 934 square feet of wetland soils. However, once the installation of the wall is complete, the excavated soils will be used as backfill and the project area will be restored to preconstruction elevations.

- 16. Floral Values The proposed project is not reasonably expected to adversely affect floral values. A biological survey conducted by RER staff revealed no significant halophytic wetland vegetation within the footprint of the proposed retaining wall. Staff documented a single Rhizophora mangle (red mangrove) seedling within the footprint of the proposed work, which will be relocated prior to the commencement of construction operations. The removal of invasive exotic plant species will promote the natural recruitment of native vegetation.
- 17. Fauna Values The proposed project is not reasonably expected to adversely affect fauna values.
- 18. <u>Rare, Threatened and Endangered Species</u> The proposed work is not reasonably expected to adversely affect rare, threatened and endangered species. Although the project site is located within an area that has the potential to be utilized by *Crocodylus acutus* (American Crocodile), the proposed work will result in minimal temporary impacts during construction of the wall. The removal of invasive exotic vegetation will enhance the existing halophytic wetland habitat that has the potential to be utilized by wildlife.
- 19. <u>Natural Flood Damage Protection</u> The proposed project is not reasonably expected to adversely affect surface water drainage or retention of stormwater. The new retaining wall is intended to protect the historic garden and the associated upland vegetation from the tidal influence of Biscayne Bay, and will exceed the Federal Emergency Management Agency 10-year flood elevation of six (6) feet National Geodetic Vertical Datum.
- 20. Wetland Values The proposed project is not reasonably expected to adversely affect wetland values. The installation of the retaining wall will result in the temporary excavation of 934 square feet of wetland soils. A biological survey conducted by RER staff revealed no significant halophytic wetland vegetation within the footprint of the proposed retaining wall. In addition, once the installation of the wall is complete, the excavated wetland soils will be used as backfill and the project area will be restored to preconstruction elevations. The removal of invasive exotic plant species from project area is intended to enhance the existing halophytic wetland area and promote the natural recruitment of native vegetation. This will result in an increase of available habitat that has the potential to be utilized by wildlife and increase wetland values.
- 21. <u>Land Use Classification</u> Pursuant to Section 24-48.2(II)(A)(7), of the Code of Miami-Dade County, Florida, a substantiating letter shall be submitted stating that the proposed project does not violate any zoning laws. Said letter will be submitted after the approval by the Board of County Commissioners and prior to the issuance of a Class I permit.
- 22. <u>Recreation</u> The proposed project does not conflict with the recreation element of the Miami-Dade County Comprehensive Development Master Plan.
- 23. Other Environmental Values Affecting the Public Interest The proposed project is not reasonably expected to adversely affect other environmental values affecting the public interest. The proposed project will occur on lands owned entirely by Miami-Dade County.
- 24. Conformance with Standard Construction Procedures and Practices and Design and Performance Standards The proposed project complies with the standard construction procedures and practices and design and performance standards of the applicable portions of the following:
 - a) Miami-Dade County Public Works Manual
 - b) Chapter 33B of the Code of Miami-Dade County
- 25. <u>Comprehensive Environmental Impact Statement (CEIS)</u> In the opinion of the RER, the proposed project is not reasonably expected to result in significant adverse environmental impacts or cumulative adverse environmental impacts. Therefore, a CEIS was not required by RER to evaluate the project.

- 26. Conformance with All Applicable Federal, State and Local Laws and Regulations The proposed project is in conformance with the following applicable State, Federal and local laws and regulations:
 - a) Chapter 24 of the Code of Miami-Dade County
 - b) United States Clean Water Act (US Army Corps of Engineers permit is required)
 - c) Florida Department of Environmental Protection (permit is required)
- 27. Conformance with the Miami-Dade County Comprehensive Development Master Plan (CDMP) In the opinion of RER, the proposed project is in conformance with the CDMP. The following is a summary of the proposed project as it relates to the CDMP:

LAND USE ELEMENT I:

Objective 3/Policies 3A, 3B, 3C - Protection of natural resources and systems. - The proposed project is consistent with the Conservation and Coastal Management Elements of the CDMP. The project is compatible with surrounding land uses in Biscayne Bay and does not involve development in the Big Cypress area of Critical State Concern or the East Everglades.

TRANSPORTATION ELEMENT II

<u>Aviation Subelement/Objective 9</u> - Aviation System Expansion - There is no aviation element to the proposed project.

<u>Port of Miami River Subelement/Objective 3</u> - Minimization of impacts to estuarine water quality and marine resources. The proposed project is not located within the Miami River.

CONSERVATION, AQUIFER RECHARGES AND DRAINAGE ELEMENT IV:

<u>Objective 3/Policies 3A, 3B, 3D</u> - Wellfield protection area protection. - The proposed project is not located within a wellfield protection area.

Objective 3/Policy 3E - Limestone mining within the area bounded by the Florida Turnpike, the Miami-Dade/Broward Levee, N.W. 12 Street and Okeechobee Road. - The proposed project is not located within this area.

<u>Objective 4/Policies 4A, 4B, 4C</u> - Water storage, aquifer recharge potential and maintenance of natural surface water drainage. - The proposed project is not reasonably expected to adversely affect water storage, aquifer recharge potential or natural surface water drainage.

Objective 5/Policies 5A, 5B, 5F - Flood protection and cut and fill criteria. — The proposed project does not compromise flood protection, involve filling for development purposes, and is not related to cut and fill activities. The new retaining wall will exceed the Federal Emergency Management Agency 10-year flood elevation of six (6) feet National Geodetic Vertical Datum.

<u>Objective 6/Policy 6A</u> - Areas of highest suitability for mineral extraction. - The proposed project is not located in an area proposed or suitable for mineral extraction.

Objective 6/Policy 6B - Guidelines for rock quarries for the re-establishment of native flora and fauna. - The proposed project is not located in a rock quarry.

<u>Objective 6/Policy 6D</u> - Fill material on-site is suitable for the support of development. - The excavated wetland sediments are not intended to be used for the support of development.

<u>Objective 7/Policy 7A</u> - No net loss of high quality, relatively unstressed wetlands. – The proposed project will not result in a net loss of any such wetlands.

Objective 9/Policies 9A, 9B, 9C - Protection of habitat critical to Federal or State-designated threatened or endangered species. — The proposed project is not reasonably expected to adversely affect habitat critical to Federal or State-designated threatened or endangered species. Although the project site is located within an area that has the potential to be utilized by American Crocodiles, the proposed work will result in minimal temporary impacts during construction of the wall. Once the installation of the wall is complete, the project area will be restored to preconstruction elevations. The removal of invasive exotic vegetation will enhance the existing halophytic wetland habitat that has the potential to be utilized by wildlife.

COASTAL MANAGEMENT ELEMENT VII:

<u>Objective 1/Policy 1A</u> - Tidally connected mangroves in mangrove protection areas – The project is not located within a designated "Mangrove Protection Area."

<u>Objective 1/ Policy 1B</u> - Natural surface flow into and through coastal wetlands. — The proposed project is not reasonably expected to adversely affect natural surface flow into and through coastal wetlands.

<u>Objective 1/ Policy 1C</u> - Elevated boardwalk access through mangroves. — The project does not involve access through mangroves.

<u>Objective 1/Policy 1D</u> - Protection and maintenance of mangrove forests and related natural vegetational communities. - The proposed project does not involve work in mangrove forests, coastal hammock, or other natural vegetational communities.

Objective 1/Policy 1E - Mitigation for the degradation and destruction of coastal wetlands. Monitoring and maintenance of mitigation areas. — The proposed project does not involve the degradation and destruction of coastal wetlands and therefore does not involve monitoring of mitigation for impacts to coastal wetlands.

<u>Objective 1/Policy 1G</u> - Prohibition on dredging or filling of grass/algal flats, hard bottom or other viable benthic communities, except as provided for in Chapter 24 of the Code of Miami-Dade County, Florida. — The project does not involve the dredging or filling of grass/algal flats, hard bottom or other viable benthic communities.

<u>Objective 2/Policies 2A, 2B</u> - Beach restoration and renourishment objectives. - The proposed project does not involve beach restoration or renourishment.

Objective 3/Policies 3E, 3F - Location of new cut and spoil areas for proper stabilization and minimization of damages. - The proposed project does not involve the development or identification of new cut or spoil areas.

Objective 4/Policy 4A, 4C, 4E, 4F — Protection of endangered or threatened animal species - The proposed work is not reasonably expected to adversely affect endangered or threatened species. Although the project site is located within an area that has the potential to be utilized by American Crocodiles, the proposed work will result in minimal temporary impacts during construction of the wall and removal of the invasive exotic vegetation.

<u>Objective 5/Policy 5B</u> - Existing and new areas for water-dependent uses. - The proposed project does not involve the use of new areas for water-dependent uses.

<u>Objective 5/Policy 5D</u> - Consistency with Chapter 33D, Miami-Dade County Code (shoreline access, environmental compatibility of shoreline development) — The Shoreline Development Review Committee has determined that the thresholds for review under the Shoreline Ordinance do not apply and the proposed project is not subject to shoreline development review.

<u>Objective 5/Policy 5F</u> - The siting of water dependent facilities. - The proposed project does not involve the creation of any new water dependent facilities.

- 28. Conformance with Chapter 33B, Code of Miami-Dade County (East Everglades Zoning Overlay Ordinance) The proposed project is not located within the East Everglades Area.
- 29. <u>Conformance with Miami-Dade County Ordinance 81-19</u> (Biscayne Bay Management Plan Sections 33D-1 through 33D-4 of the Code of Miami-Dade County) The proposed project is not located within Biscayne Bay.
- 30. Conformance with the Miami-Dade County Manatee Protection Plan The proposed project is not located within an area designated by the Miami-Dade County Manatee Protection Plan as essential manatee habitat for the *Trichechus manatus* (West Indian Manatee).
- 31. Consistency with Miami-Dade County Criteria for Lake Excavation The proposed project does not involve lake excavation.
- 32. <u>Municipality Recommendation</u> Pursuant to Section 24-48.2(II)(A)(7), Code of Miami-Dade County, Florida, a substantiating letter shall be submitted stating that the proposed project does not violate any zoning laws. Said letter will be submitted after the approval by the Board of County Commissioners and prior to the issuance of the Class I permit.
- 33. <u>Coastal Resources Management Line</u> A coastal resources management line was not required for the proposed project, pursuant to Section 24-48.2(II)(A)(10)(b) of the Code of Miami-Dade County, Florida.
- 34. <u>Maximum Protection of a Wetland's Hydrological and Biological Functions</u> The proposed project is not reasonably expected to adversely affect wetland hydrological and biological functions. The removal of invasive exotic plant species is intended to promote the natural recruitment of native vegetation and has the potential to improve the wetland's biological functions.
- 35. Class I Permit Applications Proposing to Exceed the Boundaries Described in Section D-5.03(2)(a) of the Miami-Dade County Public Works Manual Not applicable.

The proposed project was also evaluated for compliance with the standards contained in Sections 24-48.3(2),(3), and (4) of the Code of Miami-Dade County, Florida. The following is a summary of how the standards relate to the proposed project:

- 24-48.3 (2) Dredging and Filling for Class I Permit The proposed complies with the following dredge and fill criteria specified in Section 24-48.3(2):
 - A physical modification to protect public or private property.
- 24-48.3 (3) Minimum Water Depth Required for Boat Slips Created by the Construction or Placement of Fixed or Floating Docks and Piers, Piles and Other Structures Requiring a Permit Under Article IV, Division 1 of Chapter 24 of the Code of Miami-Dade County The proposed project does not involve the creation of a boat slip.

<u>24-48.3 (4) Clean Fill in Wetlands</u> – The installation of the retaining wall will result in the temporary excavation of 934 square feet of wetland soils. Once the wall installation is complete, the excavated wetland soils will be used as backfill and the project area will be restored to preconstruction elevations.

BASED ON THE FOREGOING, IT IS RECOMMENDED THAT A CLASS I PERMIT BE APPROVED.

Lisa. M. Spadafina, Manager

Loundas Barrelle

Coastal Resources Section

Lourdes Barrelli, Biologist II Coastal Resources Section

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